

Attendees: Commissioners Thorburn, Baker, and Holzmilller met with WDFW staff Gardner, Martorello, and Smith to discuss options for Commission engagement in wolf policy discussions.

No decisions were made other than those dealing with making a recommendation for how the Commission could engage in wolf policy-level discussions, which will be discussed at the Wildlife Committee meeting and subsequently reported out at the Commission meeting, both occurring on January 11, 2019.

During the meeting, the department reviewed several on-going or planned actions that involve policy level discussions and Commission processes; including: ongoing periodic status review (PSR), SEPA for wolf translocation, and the development of a post-delisting wolf conservation and management plan. The Commissioners focused their discussion on the process options available to them to ensure the appropriate level of engagement in those efforts.

Things to determine if a Committee is established:

1. How does the Director wish to engage with the committee?
2. How does the Director want the committee to interact with the WAG?
3. How does the committee interact with the commission effectively?
4. Is it a separate committee or a sub-committee of the WL Committee?
5. Membership assignments.
6. Public engagement expectations for the new committee vs. reporting out through the WL Committee and/or the Commission.
7. Should the Committee have a defined purpose or vision statement?

While no decisions were made regarding wolf management or the content of a post delisting plan, Commissioners did discuss the plan as a way to understand what policy-level guidance may be addressed by the plan.

Values that were discussed regarding Commission participation in the development of a plan:

1. Consider how the Commission can be helpful with broad stroke guidance.
2. Look for areas where the Commission make decisions that lesson the load and/or simplify the process.
3. Avoid last minute changes to work done by others, which will require adequate participation to ensure insight into content and issues.
4. Would Commission set sideboards or less specific – what must be done versus what must be considered.

There was a brief discussion regarding the potential development of a vision statement for the plan. Some of those discussion points are captured below: *recovered wolf population, healthy ungulate populations, healthy livestock industry, ability to address conflict, collaborative, adaptive, and includes local voices*. This discussion was not intended to be directive, comprehensive nor fully inclusive of the values that could be in such a statement, but upon review, were found to be similar with many of the values developed by the WAG for the plan.